

Committee: Finance & Administration

Agenda Item

Date: 9 February 2010

11

Title: Asset Management Plan

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Item for decision

Summary

1. In relation to 2008/09, the Audit Commission determined that the Council's Asset Management arrangements are inadequate, constituting a qualification in the formal opinion about the Council's arrangements for securing value for money. A similar judgement is expected for 2009/10. Asset Management becomes a scored judgement in the Use of Resources Inspection for the first time in 2010/11, so significant progress and demonstrable outcomes by March 2011 are essential.
2. A new Asset Management Plan has been developed, to set a clear framework and direction for asset management activity in the Council. The strategy has been developed with the Principal Asset Strategy Manager of Essex County Council's Properties & Facilities service.
3. Although there is effective work undertaken at individual service level, the Council currently lacks the corporate capacity to take forward the issues identified in the Plan. Accordingly the first task and priority is to secure the required capacity and expertise. Options are being investigated. Adopting the Plan, however, is an important and necessary first step.

Recommendations

4. The Committee is recommended to approve the Asset Management Plan as attached to this report.

Background Papers

None.

Impact

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Communication/Consultation | SMB has been consulted. |
| Community Safety | No specific implications |
| Equalities | No specific implications |
| Finance | The 2010/11 budget includes £20,000 to obtain asset management capacity and expertise. |

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Health and Safety | No specific implications |
| Human Rights/Legal Implications | No specific implications |
| Sustainability | No specific implications |
| Ward-specific impacts | No specific implications |
| Workforce/Workplace | No specific implications |

Risk Analysis

| Risk | Likelihood | Impact | Mitigating actions |
|--|--|--|--|
| Actions in the Asset Management Plan are not implemented | 3 (no internal capacity and external support arrangements have not yet been secured) | 3 (the Council will be unable to demonstrate progress) | Options for accessing asset management support to be investigated. |

- 1 = Little or no risk or impact
- 2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.
- 3 = Significant risk or impact – action required
- 4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.